

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, RP

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S MANILA PRESS CONFERENCE

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY
CONGRESSMAN LESTER WOLFF, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS, IN
MANILA, APRIL 19:

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

CONGRESSMAN WOLFF: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. FIRST OF ALL, LET ME THANK
ALL OF YOU FOR COMING HERE THIS MORNING. SECONDLY, LET ME SAY THAT
ALTHOUGH THE VISIT OF OUR DELEGATION HAS BEEN A BRIEF ONE IT HAS BEEN
A HIGHLY INTENSIVE ONE. YESTERDAY, THE GROUP MET WITH THE PRESIDENT
AND THE FIRST LADY, I BELIEVE IT WAS AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING
FOR OUR FIRST MEETING. THE MEETING LASTED UNTIL FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE
AFTERNOON, KIND OF A LONG LUNCH, EVEN FOR THE PHILIPPINES.
IT WAS OF FIVE HOURS DURATION AND IT WAS THE OCCASION FOR SOME
VERY FRANK DISCUSSION AS TO THE PROBLEM AREAS THAT EXIST BETWEEN
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OUR NATIONS AND THE PROBLEMS FOR THIS AREA OF THE WORLD. I HAVE
KNOWN THE PRESIDENT EVER SINCE HE WAS A CONGRESSMAN AND I
MADE REFERENCE TO THE FACT THAT WE BOTH SHARE LEGISLATIVE
BACKGROUNDS. I MUST SAY THAT WE COME AWAY FROM THESE MEETINGS
SATISFIED THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN PRODUCTIVE IN PROVIDING
US WITH INFORMATION NOT ONLY FROM THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL HERE, BUT
WE HAVE ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING WITH A NUMBER OF

PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT IN THE GOVERNMENT, PEOPLE WHO EITHER I HAVE KNOWN FROM PREVIOUS VISITS OR THAT OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR DELEGATION HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS WE WILL RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. WE ARE MAKING A SHORT STOPOVER IN TAIPEI. ON OUR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES WE WILL BEGIN DELIBERATIONS ON THE NEW FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT AND THAT HAS BEEN THE BASIS OF OUR TRIP TO THIS PART OF THE WORLD.

WE WILL HAVE VISITED SIX NATIONS IN SOME TWELVE DAYS AND HAVE SPECIFICALLY LOOKED INTO THE QUESTION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR THIS AREA. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN VERY ACTIVELY PURSUING THE QUESTION OF ASEAN GENERALLY AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE UNITED STATES. ON THE QUESTION OF ASEAN, I HAVE RECOMMENDED, AS A PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION, THAT THE UNITED STATES EXCHANGE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS WITH THE ASEAN NATIONS. I FEEL THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THOSE OF US IN THE CONGRESS TO MEET WITH OUR COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD. IN FACT, THAT WAS A MATTER THAT I DISCUSSED AS WELL WITH THE PRESIDENT WHEN WE MET YESTERDAY. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO LEGISLATURE HERE AT THE PRESENT TIME, HE ASSURED US THERE ARE MOVES AFOOT TO SEE THAT THERE IS A LEGISLATURE IN THE FUTURE. THIS, I THINK, IS A VERY ENCOURAGING SIGN. HOWEVER, WE DON'T CLAIM TO BE FOLLOWERS OF THOSE WHO COME TO A COUNTRY FOR TWO DAYS AND WRITE A BOOK ABOUT THE COUNTRY, NOR DO WE CLAIM TO HAVE SOLVED ALL OF THE PROBLEMS. WE NOW PERHAPS MAY NOT KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS, BUT WE KNOW SOME OF THE QUESTIONS TO ASK AND I THINK THAT IT IS MOST IMPORTANT. NEEDLESS TO SAY WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE COOPERATION THAT WE HAVE GOTTEN FROM THE EMBASSY, FROM THE AMBASSADOR. I PERSONALLY AM SORRY TO SEE AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN LEAVE THE

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PHILIPPINES. I KNOW HE HAS DONE AN IMENINETLY SUCCESSFUL JOB HERE. I HOPE HE WILL BE ABLE TO DO US AS SUCCESSFUL A JOB IN IRAN AS HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH HERE. I'D BE DELIGHTED TO ANSWER ANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS.

QUESTION: (UNINTELLIGBILE CONCERNING THE GROUP'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS ON THE BASES).

REP. WOLFF: NO, TO THE CONTRARY, I THINK THAT WE DID INDICATE THAT THERE WAS A LONG STANDING MUTUAL ASSISTANCE TREATY WITH THE PHILIPPINES. THAT HAD BEEN IN EXISTENCE AND CONTINUES IN EXISTENCE. OUR TREATY OBLIGATIONS ARE NOT ONLY OF CONTINUING NATURE BUT THERE HAS BEEN NOTHING THAT I KNOWN OF THAT HAS IN ANY WAY ABROGATED THOSE TREATY OBLIGATIONS. I MIGHT SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIP TODAY TO THE RESPONSE IN THE FORM

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OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN MANPOWER AND THE LIKE THAN EXISTED AT THE TIME THE TREATY WAS MADE, AND THAT IS THE RESTRAINTS THAT THE CONGRESS HAS PLACED UPON PRESIDENTIAL POWER IN THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION, WHICH REQUIRES THAT THE CONGRESS CONFIRM THE ACTIONS OF A PRESIDENT IN COMMITTING TROOPS TO ANY AREA OF THE WORLD. IN FACT, THERE IS ONE PROVISION OF THE WAR POWERS ACT THAT FAILURE OF THE CONGRESS TO EITHER CONFIRM OR DENY REQUIRES THE PRESIDENT TO REMOVE TROOPS FROM A PARTICULAR AREA. NOW, WE DID NOT COME HERE TO NEGOTIATE, WE ARE LEAVING THAT TO NEGOTIATORS WHOSE PROPER FUNCTION AND ROLE IS TO NEGOTIATE ANY NEW AGREEMENT. BUT AS FAR AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, THE TREATY AND AGREEMENTS ON BASES LAST UP TO 1991, I BELIEVE IT IS. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING LAUREL-LANGLEY EVER SINCE I CAME OUT HERE IN 1962 WHEN I WAS OUT HERE ON A TRADE MISSION WE WERE TALKING ABOUT RENEGOTIATING THE LAUREL LANGLEY TREATY, THAT IS STILL BEING DONE. I THINK IT IS WISE FOR US TO TALK ABOUT THESE AGREEMENTS AND THE LIKE, HOWEVER, THE AGREEMENT DID NOT IN ANY MANNER, SHAPE OR FORM ANTICIPATE THAT IN 1977 WE WOULD BE ABROGATING ANY TREATY OR AGREEMENT, BECAUSE THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE UP TO 1991. WE CAN TALK ABOUT THESE THINGS, BUT ANY NEW TREATY THAT GOES IN UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFECT OBVIOUSLY WOULD GO INTO EFFECT IN 1991, UNLESS IT WAS SET ASIDE BY BOTH PARTIES.

I THINK WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT YESTERDAY WAS THE MUTUALITY OF INTERESTS IN THE BASES. IF THERE IS NOT A MUTUAL INTEREST IN OUR HAVING THOSE BASES, IF THERE IS NOT A MUTUAL NEED FOR HAVING THOSE BASES, THEN THOSE BASES DO NOT BELONG HERE. I THINK IT IS ABOUT TIME THAT THE U.S. TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE NEEDS OF THE FUTURE AND OUR POSITION IS EMINENTLY CLEAR THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IF PEOPLE WANT US TO REMAIN, WE WILL REMAIN, IF THERE IS A U.S. INTEREST. IF PEOPLE WANT US TO GO, WE WILL PACK OUR BAGS AND GO. BUT, WE ARE NOT GOING TO ATTEMPT TO FORCE ON ANY NATION OUR PRESENCE IN ANY WAY. THE PRESIDENT DID INDICATE TO US YESTERDAY, AND I CAN'T SPEAK FOR HIM, BUT I CAN SAY THAT HE INDICATED THAT THERE WAS MUCH TALK ABOUT THESE BASES AND TURNING THEM OVER TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF ACTIVITY, BUT HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT WE COULD COME TO A CONCLUSION THAT WAS SATISFACTORY TO BOTH NATIONS AND CLARK AND SUBIC WOULD REMAIN AS AMERICAN BASES IN THE FUTURE.

QUESTION: CONCERNING U.S. ROLE IN SEA)

REP. WOLFF: I THINK WE ARE LIVING IN A CHANGING WORLD. THERE ARE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES. I DON'T THINK, HOWEVER, THE U.S. CAN AFFORD TO NEGLECT ITS POSITION IN ASIA. THERE MAY NOT BE THE SAME THREAT THAT EXISTED IN THE PAST, BUT OUR POSITION SHOULD BE ONE OF MAINTAINING EQUILIBRIUM AND STABILITY IN THE AREA. I DON'T THINK THAT WE SHOULD BE UPSETTING, OR CAUSING ANY EITHER MISAPPREHENSION OR MISCONSTRUCTION ON THE PART OF THOSE WHO STILL CONSIDER US AS ADVERSARIES TO BELIEVE THAT WE ARE WITHDRAWING INTO AN ISLAND FORTRESS. WE LIVE IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD TODAY. THERE ARE NEEDS THAT EXIST THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND I THINK THAT ASIA IS AN AREA THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A VERY VITAL INTEREST. WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME ADVERSARY POSITION WITH THE PRC THAT WE HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST. WE ARE NOT IN A SHOOTING WAR IN VIETNAM AS WE HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST. THE REQUIREMENTS

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CHANGE BUT WE CERTAINLY DO REQUIRE SOME SORT OF ASSURANCE AND INSURANCE FOR THE FUTURE. THEREFORE, I FEEL THAT WE HAVE TO CONCERN OURSELVES LEST WE INADVERTENTLY CAST OURSELVES IN THE SAME ROLE THAT THE FRENCH DID IN INDOCHINA, OR THAT THE BRITISH HAVE DONE IN VARIOUS OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD IN CREATING A VACUUM THAT DOES CREATE TURMOIL.

QUESTION: (ON WHETHER HE DISAGREES WITH STATE DEPARTMENT POSITION ON WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES FROM KOREA)

REP. WOLFF: NO, I DON'T THINK THAT AT ALL. IT IS A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL. I DON'T THINK THERE HAS BEEN A TIMETABLE THAT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. I THINK THAT'S A QUESTION OF SEMANTICS THAT IS INVOLVED. THE PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT THE UNITED STATES, AS I HAVE INDICATED ON THE QUESTION OF BASES AND THE

LIKE, THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE
CONDITIONS THAT EXIST IN THE PARTICULAR AREA. NOW, IF THE
CONCERN BY SOME PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES IS THAT BY KEEPING FORCES
IN KOREA, WE WILL BE ENGAGED IN A WAR BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE
SOUTH, THE MERE PHYSICAL PRESENCE OF GROUND TROOPS IS NO MORE OF A
CHANCE FOR US TO BECOME ENGAGED THAN AIR. IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY

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DIFFERENCE WHERE YOU BECOME ENGAGED, WHETHER IT IS IN THE AIR OR
ON THE GROUND. IF YOU BECOME ENGAGED IN A WAR YOU ARE IN IT AND
IF ONE OF OUR AIRCRAFT IS SHOT DOWN, I ASSURE YOU THAT THERE WILL
BE THE SAME OUTRAGE FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AS THERE WOULD
BE FROM SOME OF OUR MILITARY BEING KILLED ON THE GROUND. NOW THE
QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA IS BASED UPON TWO VERY IMPORTANT
ASPECTS. NUMBER ONE, THE BUDGETARY ASPECT, THE QUESTION OF
ELIMINATING THE FAT WHICH EXISTS WITHIN OUR DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT
AND OUR SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. NUMBER
TWO, IS THE QUESTION OF THE NEEDS OF THE PARTICULAR NATIONS
THAT ARE INVOLVED. IT SO HAPPENS THAT WE DO FEEL THAT THE
SOUTH KOREANS CAN ABLY DEFEND THEMSELVES ON THE GROUND AND
WE ARE MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF OUR TROOPS CONSI-
TENT WITH THE ABILITY OF THE SOUTH KOREANS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES
AGAINST A POSSIBLE ATTACK BY THE NORTH. NOW THERE IS ALSO THE
CONTINGENCY THAT ALWAYS EXIST. THAT IS, NORTH KOREA ALONE IS
ONE THING. NORTH KOREA PLUS THE SOVIET UNION IS SOMETHING ELSE.
OR NORTH KOREA PLUS VOLUNTEERS FROM CHINA IS SOMETHING ELSE.
I DO NOT FEEL THAT EITHER THE CHINESE OR THE SOVIETS AT THE

PRESENT TIME ARE A FACTOR WHICH IS INCITING CONFLICT IN THAT
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AREA BUT I FEEL, TO THE CONTRARY, THAT THEY ARE RESTRAINING
ACTIVITY IN THAT AREA. CONSISTENT WITH THAT, IT SHOULD BE
AMERICAN POLICY TO ATTEMPT TO REDUCE THE TENSIONS IN THE AREA,
RATHER THAN TO RAISE THEM. BUT IF THE REMOVAL OF TROOPS IN
A PRECIPITOUS MANNER, OF TAKING ALL THE TROOPS OUT EXCEPT ON A
SCHEDULED BASIS, DOES LEAD THE NORTH KOREANS INTO BELIEVING THAT
THEY CAN LAUNCH ANOTHER OFFENSIVE SIMILAR TO WHAT THEY DID IN
THE KOREAN WAR, THIS WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE AND WOULD NOT BE
CONTRIBUTING TO STABILITY BUT WOULD BE CONTRIBUTING TO TENSION.
I DON'T THINK THAT OUR POSITION, OR THE POSITION OF THE STATE
DEPARTMENT OR THE PRESIDENT IS IN ANYWAY IN CONFLICT. ALL I WAS
ATTEMPTING TO DO IN THE STATEMENTS THAT I WAS QUOTED ON WAS TO
DEFINE IN MORE PRECISE TERMS EXACTLY WHAT HAD BEEN ALLUDED TO IN
THE PAPERS. THE MINUTE YOU SAY TROOP WITHDRAWAL, PEOPLE THINK
THAT YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE THE SHIPS, PLUS THEM UP TO THE DOCKS AND
LOAD ALL THE TROOPS ONTO THE SHIPS. IT'S NOT OUR INTENTION AT ALL.
THE TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN IN CONSULTATION WITH THE KOREANS
AND THE JAPANESE WHO HAVE A VITAL STAKE IN THIS, AND WHO HAVE
EXPRESSED VERY STRONG CONCERN ABOUT OUR REMOVAL OF TROOPS FROM THAT
AREA. PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA MADE THIS ONE OF THE PRIME TOPICS OF
DISCUSSION WHEN WE MET WITH HIM IN TOKYO'

QUESTION: (ON WHETHER PRESIDENT MARCOS INDICATED WHETHER HE
WANTED U.S. BASES TO REMAIN THE PHILIPPINES.)

REP. WOLFF: YES, HE STATED SO IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS. HE FELT
THAT THEY WERE CONTRIBUTING TO THE SECURITY OF BOTH OF OUR
NATIONS. THE QUESTION IS: WHAT IS THE PRICE THAT BOTH NATIONS HAVE
TO PAY? SOMETIMES THE PRICE IS TOO HIGH. IF WE WERE TO TRY TO
IMPOSE OUR WILL UPON THE PHILIPPINE PEOPLE BY HAVING OUR BASES HERE
THEN THAT PRICE WOULD BE TOO HIGH FOR THE PHILIPPINE PEOPLE TO HAVE
TO PAY. IF, HOWEVER ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT

WERE TO IMPOSE TOO GREAT A PRICE FOR OUR STAYING HERE, THEN THAT
WOULD BE A SITUATION THAT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH THE REASONS WHY
OUR BASES ARE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE AND THAT IS TO PROVIDE
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SECURITY FOR BOTH NATIONS.

QUESTION: (ON DETAILS OF BASE NEGOTIATIONS).

REP. WOLFF: AS I INDICATED TO YOU, I AM NOT A NEGOTIATOR. WE DID

NOT TALK ABOUT THE RENT, NOR DID WE TALK ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY THAT THE BASES PROVIDE, SO THAT WE DID NOT GET DOWN TO REAL SPECIFICS.

QUESTION: (ON USEFULNESS OF BASES TO U.S.)

REP WOLFF: I AM CHAIRMAN OF A COMMITTEE THAT OPERATES ON A VERY DEMOCRATIC BASIS AND WE WILL MAKE A DECISION BY A VOTE OF THE COMMITTEE. I PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THE UNITED STATES' INTEREST, AND I AM NOT SPEAKING FOR THE COMMITTEE, AND I AM NOT SPEAKING FOR THE CONGRESS, AND I AM NOT SPEAKING FOR THE PRESIDENT, I AM SPEAKING FOR LESTER WOLFF. I BELIEVE IT IS IN THE UNITED STATES' INTEREST TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENCE HERE IN THE PHILIPPINES AND I FEEL THAT, NOT BEING PRESUMPTIOUS, BUT I FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE PHILIPPINES AS WELL TO HAVE A U.S. PRESENCE HERE.

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QUESTION: (ON DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS).

REP. WOLFF: THIS QUESTIONS WAS RAISED WITH EVERY HEAD OF STATE THAT WE SPOKE TO, BECAUSE I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY ONE OF THE NATIONS THAT WE HAVE VISITED THAT THERE HAVE NOT BEEN CERTAIN CHARGES OF DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AGAIN REQUIRES THAT WE VERY CAREFULLY ANALYZE WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. ARE WE TALKING ABOUT POLITICAL RIGHTS? ARE WE TALKING ABOUT INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY? ARE WE TALKINGABOUT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION? WHAT ARE WE

REALLY TALKING ABOUT? OUR PRESIDENT, I THINK, HAS TAKEN A REALLY MAGNIFICENT POSITION IN RAISING THE LEVEL OF INTEREST IN THE MORAL PRINCIPLES THAT GUIDE THE WORLD. IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO MAKE ECONOMIC PROGRESS, PROGRESS MUST BE MADE AS WELL FOR THE INDIVIDUALS IN OUR SOCIETY, OTHERWISE SOCIETY IS MEANINGLESS. THEREFORE, WE HAVE RAISED THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WE'VE RAISED THE INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, OF INCARCERATION, AND OF TORTURE. IN EACH CASE, THESE QUESTIONS WERE ANSWERED BY THE PEOPLE INVOLVED, AND AS I'VE INDICATED WE MET NOT ONLY WITH THE PEOPLE IN THE GOVERNMENT, BUT PEOPLE OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO GET A WIDE ASSESSMENT OF WHAT WAS OCCURRING. I MIGHT

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SAY TO YOU THAT WE GOT A VARIETY OF ANSWERS AND IF YOU LISTENED TO ONE PERSON TALKING TO YOU, YOU WOULD THINK THERE WAS NO DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ANY MANNER, SHAPE OR FORM. IF YOU TALKED TO ANOTHER, YOU'D FIND THAT THERE WERE NO HUMAN RIGHTS EXISTING AT ALL IN THE PARTICULAR NATION. I THINK THAT WE HAVE GOT TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT ON THIS UPON OUR RETURN IN CONTEXT WITH VARIOUS INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE GOTTEN. IN THE CASE, FOR EXAMPLE, OF TIMOR, WE SENT TWO CONGRESSMEN TO TIMOR AT THE INVITATION OF THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT. BOTH MRS. MEYNER AND CONGRESSMAN GOODLING. BOTH WENT THERE TOGETHER WITH STAFF. AND WE ALSO SENT THE STAFF OF THE COMMITTEE THAT IS CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, MR. FRASER'S COMMITTEE. A REPRESENTATIVE OF MR. FRASER'S COMMITTEE IS HERE AND HE HAS INVESTIGATED VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION. YOU KNOW, I THINK WE'VE GOT TO EXAMINE THIS QUESTION AGAIN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SITUATION IN EACH OF THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES INVOLVED. LET ME PREFACE THIS BY SAYING THAT I TOOK FREEDOM RIDES IN MY OWN COUNTRY IN THE '60'S, BECAUSE THERE WAS A DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF OUR COUNTRY. I THINK WE'VE GOT TO LOOK INWARD AS WELL AS LOOKING OUTWARD. I ALWAYS USE THE OLD SAW OF WHEN ONE FINGER POINTS AT SOMEONE ELSE, THREE FINGERS POINT AT YOURSELF. I THINK THAT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT VERY FEW OF US REALIZE, TO TRY TO IMPOSE ONE'S WILL UPON SOMEONE ELSE IS A VERY DIFFICULT MORAL CHOICE. WHEN OUR PEOPLE WENT TO TIMOR, WE HAD TO SET THAT IN THE BACKGROUND OF 450 YEARS OF PORTUGUESE OCCUPATION AND WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE PEOPLE AND THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY LIVE TODAY AFTER 450 YEARS OF SO-CALLED ENLIGHTENED RULE. I THINK WE'VE GOT TO BE VERY PRAGMATIC ABOUT WHAT EXISTS TODAY AND NOT SIT ON A HIGH AND LOFTY PLAIN AND BE CRITICAL OF EVERYBODY ELSE. WE HAVE AN EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT THAT IS SITTING IN THE LEGISLATURES OF OUR COUNTRY. THAT EQUAL RIGHT AMENDMENT IS TO GIVE EQUAL RIGHTS TO WOMEN. WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE ALMOST AS MANY RIGHTS AS THEY HAVE IN ANY PLACE ELSE IN THE WORLD, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY HAVE ACHIEVED THE ULTIMATE IN THEIR RIGHTS. AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE SEEKING TODAY. WE ARE EXPRESSING CONCERN TO THE NATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

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FOR THE DIGNITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND WE ARE TRYING TO EXERT THE SAME TYPE OF MORAL LEADERSHIP THAT WE HAVE EXERTED IN THE PAST THAT SEEMED TO HAVE FALLEN AWAY FROM US OVER A PERIOD OF TIME. WE CAN ONLY EXERT THIS LEADERSHIP BY EXAMPLE RATHER THAN WORDS. IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT WE WILL RE-EXAMINE THE POSITION OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE LIKE, IN CONTEXT WITH HUMAN RIGHTS.

QUESTION: (CONCERNING A SENATE BILL TO BAR FOREIGN AID TO COUNTRIES UNDER MARTIAL LAW)

REP. WOLFF: WELL, THE BILL IS IN CONGRESS. WE HAVE, I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY I THINK, TEN THOUSAND BILLS IN EACH LEGISLATURE THAT THERE ARE PUT INTO THE HOPPER EACH YEAR. WHERE IT WILL GO, I CANNOT SAY TO YOU. I CAN TELL YOU ONE THING, WE DO HAVE AN AMENDMENT, NOT THAT I AM TAKING CREDIT FOR IT, BUT THAT A GROUP OF US PUT INTO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BILL THAT PRECLUDED AID ANY COUNTRY THAT DENIED HUMAN RIGHTS. THE QUESTION OF MARTIAL LAW IS IN DIFFERENT SITUATION, I THINK. THERE IS A DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN MARTIAL LAW, WHAT ARE THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CAUSE MARTIAL LAW? IS IT AN EMERGENCY SITUATION? IS IT A FICTITIOUS EMERGENCY? IS IT A REAL EMERGENCY? IN A REAL EMERGENCY, YOU KNOWN, MARTIAL LAW IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN ORDER AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS. IT IS ALMOST A CATCH-22 SITUATION, BUT BY THE SAME TOKEN I THINK YOU HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THE FACT THAT WE HAVE FROM TIME TO TIME IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, MY OWN COUNTRY, HAVE SET MARTIAL LAW, NOT IN THE ENTIRE NATION BUT IN PARTICULAR AREAS. MARTIAL LAW IS INVOKED AT A TIME WHEN THERE IS A GREAT FLOOD, TO PREVENT LOOTING. IT IS INVOKED AT OTHER TIMES TO PREVENT CHAOS IN A PARTICULAR AREA. IT IS NOT INVOKED TO PUT DOWN POLITICAL DISSENT.

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QUESTION: CONCERNING THE OBJECTIVE OF THE ASEAN NATIONS OF
CREATING AN AREA OF PEACE AND NEUTRALITY IN SEA)

REP. WOLFF: I WOULD SAY THAT JUST AS MOST NATIONS OF THE WORLD
HAVE PEACE AS AN OBJECTIVE, THEY HAVE AN OBJECTIVE OF A NEUTRAL
ZONE. BUT YOU CAN'T HAVE UNILATERAL NEUTRALITY. THEIR NEUTRALITY
IS DEPENDENT UPON FACTORS THAT GO BEYOND THE INDIVIDUAL'S DESIRE
FOR NEUTRALITY. WE HAVE THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS OF THE WORLD. I DON'T
KNOW ANY OF THEM THAT ARE NON-ALIGNED. I THINK THAT THEY HAVE AN
OBJECTIVE OF BEING A NEUTRAL ZONE. THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEIR
AREA FREE FROM OUTSIDE INFLUENCE AND I THINK THAT THIS IS NOT
ONLY A NOBLE OBJECTIVE BUT THE DESIRED PURPOSE.

QUESTION: (CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM)

WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO RENEGOTIATE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH VIETNAM.
I THINK IF WE COULD SET AS AN EXAMPLE THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN
THE JAPANESE AND THE UNITED STATES, IN THE FUTURE, THIS WOULD BE
A GOOD PATTERN TO BE ABLE TO FOLLOW BECAUSE WE WERE ADVERSARIES
TOO, AND NOW WE ARE THE CLOSEST OF FRIENDS AND ALLIES. I DON'T
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KNOW WHETHER THE VIETNAMESE ARE JAPANESE IN THINKING BY ANY
MEANS, I SINCERELY QUESTION THIS, BUT I WOULD HOPE HOWEVER, THAT
THEY COULD PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
POSITION WITH ITS FORMER ADVERSARIES. TWO OF THE GREATEST ALLIES
THE UNITED STATES HAS TODAY ARE JAPAN AND GERMANY. THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TODAY IS A GREAT ALLY. TWO COUNTRIES THAT
HAVE PROFITTED BY THEIR CONFLICT EVEN IN DEFEAT HAVE BEEN THE
COUNTRIES OF GERMANY AND JAPAN. MY COMMITTEE WILL BE REEXAMINING
TOGETHER WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT THE POSITIONS OF THE UNITED
STATES WITH VIETNAM. I DID NOT MENTION, ALTHOUGH I DID MENTION
AT THE AIRPORT WHEN I CAME IN WITH MR. HOLBROOKE, WHO IS OUR
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS, THAT THERE'S A VERY
CLOSE UNITY NOW ALTHOUGH YOU DID SAY SOMETHING ABOUT A CONFLICT OF
OPINIONS, THERE'S A CLOSE UNITY NOW BETWEEN THE STATE DEPARTMENT,
THE EXECUTIVE, AND THE CONGRESS. AND IT'S NOT JUST A HONEYMOON.
I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE A KIND OF MARRIAGE. WE MIGHT HAVE OUR
LOVE SPATS AND WHAT HAVE YOU BUT I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG
TERM MARRIAGE AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET DIVORCED FOR ANY LENGTH

OF TIME. BECAUSE OF THIS CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP, I DON'T THINK
WE'RE GOING TO EXPERIENCE THE SAME TYPE OF PROBLEMS THAT WE EXPERIENC
ED
IN THE PAST WHERE AGREEMENTS WERE MADE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT
OR BY INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THEN HAD TO BE
WITHDRAWN, OR IN SOME CASES, CHANGED BY THE CONGRESS.

AS FOR THE VIETNAMESE THREAT TO ASEAN, I AM HOPEFUL THAT
VIETNAME WHICH HAS PROFESSED PEACE IN THE PAST AND HAS INDICATED
ITS DESIRE FOR PEACE IN THE FUTURE WILL PUT INTO PRACTICE THE
WORDS THAT THEY HAVE ARTICULATED AND WILL MAINTAIN THE PEACE IN THAT
AREA. I HAD INDICATED THAT WE HAD SOME REPORTS THAT A SMALL AMOUNT
OF AMERICAN WEAPONRY HAD BEEN FOUND IN CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE
MALAYSIAN/THAI BORDER. WE LEFT AN AWFUL LOT OF WEAPONRY THERE. TALK
ABOUT A MILITARY AID PROGRAM, WE HAD THE BIGGEST MILITARY AID PROGRAM
IN OUR HISTORY. WE LEFT SIX AND A HALF
BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF ARMS
IN VIETNAM. HOW MUCH OF THAT THEY CAN USE I DON'T KNOW, BUT WHAT
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THEY CAN USE I HOPE THEY DON'T USE. I HOPE THAT THEY WILL SET AN
EXAMPLE IN NOT MAKING USE OF THESE ARMS IN AN AGGRESSIVE FASHION. I
THINK THAT A PRELUDE TO ANY NEGOTIATIONS THAT OUR NATION MIGHT HAVE
WITH VIETNAM FOR THE FUTURE WOULD BE A STIPULATION THAT THERE NOT
BE THE TRANSFER OF THESE ARMS TO ANY OTHER NATION OF THE WORLD TO
BE USED AGAINST EXISTING NATIONS IN THE ASEAN GROUP. CERTAINLY IT
IS THE DESIRE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO SEE TO IT THAT PEACE IS MAIN-
TAINED IN THIS AREA. WINNING WARS DOESN'T PROVIDE ANYTHING FOR
MANKIND OTHER THAN THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DEAD THAT ENSUE IN THOSE
WARS AND THE HEAVY PAYMENT, THAT WE ARE NOW FINDING OURSELVES IN A
POOR ECONOMIC POSITION, THAT WE'RE STILL PAYING FOR THE LAST WAR.

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O R 200143Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8616
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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QUESTION: (CONCERNING WHETHER DISCOVERY OF U.S. ARMS IN REBEL
HANDS ON THAI-MALAYSIA BORDER ENDANGERS U.S./VN NORMALIZATION
TALKS)

REP. WOLFF: I DON'T KNOW IF IT HAS REACHED THAT STAGE OF SENSITIVITY.
IT'S THE FIRST THAT WE HAVE FOUND AT ALL AND IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN
WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENT AT ALL. I DON'T THINK EVEN IN
A TOTALITARIAN STATE THAT THEY CAN CONTROL EVERYBODY.

QUESTION: (CONCERNING RELATIONSHIP OF BASES IN PHILIPPINES TO
INDO-CHINA SITUATION)

REP. WOLFF: I DON'T THINK THAT OUR KEEPING OUR BASES HERE HAS
RELEVANCE TO THE INDO-CHINA SITUATION TODAY AT ALL. I THINK THAT
IT DIDN'T PROVE TO BE BEFORE, AND TODAY THERE IS LESS OF AN
INCLINATION FOR THE UNITED STATES TO BECOME INVOLVED.
HOWEVER, I MIGHT SAY THAT SO FAR AS THE FUTURE IS CONCERNED,
I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SEE US WITHDRAW ALL THE POLICEMEN
FROM THE CITY OF NEW YORK, BUT UNFORTUNATELY I CAN'T DO THAT. THERE
ARE PEOPLE WHO WOULD ATTACK OTHER PEOPLE. ALTHOUGH I DON'T WANT
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TO BE A POLICEMAN AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE A POLICEMAN,
WE HAD PROBLEMS IN TRYING TO BE A POLICEMAN FOR THE WORLD, I THINK
WE CAN DO SOMETHING ELSE. MAYBE, EVEN THOUGH I AM NOT AN
ATTORNEY, MAYBE WE CAN BE THE LAWYER FOR THE WORLD TO TRY TO SETTLE
SOME DIFFERENCES. WE CAN'T BE THE BANKER OF THE WORLD EITHER,
BUT WE CAN BE A FINANCIAL ADVISOR. MAYBE IN THE CHANGES THAT ARE
OCCURRING THE UNITED STATES CAN ADOPT A ROLE OF ASSISTANCE THAT IS
NOT IMPOSITION. THIS IS IN CONNECTION WITH THE BASES. TODAY
I DOUBT THAT IT WOULD BE ANY DETERRENT TO THE VIETNAMESE
IF THEY DECIDED THAT THEY WANTED TO MOVE. I THINK HOWEVER ON A

CONTINGENCY BASIS THAT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT BASES BE
MAINTAINED IN THIS AREA OF THE WORLD. IF STABILITY IS TO BE
MAINTAINED, BECAUSE THERE IS NO COMPETITION THAT EXISTS HERE,
REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THE UNITED STATES IS HERE, THE
SOVIETS AND THE CHINESE ARE STILL HERE. WHEN I WAS IN PEKING
THEY TOLD ME DON'T LET THE TIGER OUT OF THE FRONT DOOR BECAUSE THE
BEAR IS GOING TO COME IN THE BACK DOOR. THE FACT IS THAT THEY

ARE IN A VERY HEAVY ADVERSARY POSITION TODAY, AND THEY ARE
FIGHTING FOR POSITION IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD. I WILL
TELL YOU ONE THING THAT CONCERNS ME PERSONALLY: THAT IS THE
SOLUTION THAT HAS BEEN OBTAINED HERE IN THE PHILIPPINES. I DON'T
WANT TO SEE KHADAFY WHO HAS BEEN AN INSTRUMENT OF THE RUSSIANS, GET
ATOEHOLD IN THIS AREA OF THE WORLD. I THINK THAT WOULD BE VERY,
VERY DANGEROUS TO THE STABILITY OF THIS AREA. KHADAFY IS VERY
UNSTABLE, AND I AM PUTTING IT VERY MILDLY, A VERY UNSTABLE
INDIVIDUAL, AND HE HAS BEEN USED AS AN INSTRUMENT BY THE SOVIETS.
WITH THE CONFLICTS THAT EXIST, I DON'T WANT US PUT IN A POSITION LIKE

THE SITUATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, WHERE THE SOVIETS START THE BUILD
UP AND THEN THE UNITED STATES MOVES TO COUNTER THAT OR THE CHINESE
MOVE TO COUNTER THAT. WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT IN THE WORLD, I

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O R 200143Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
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AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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THINK IT IS TIME FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO GET TOGETHER TO CONQUER
THE MAJOR ENEMIES THAT EXIST, THAT IS BOTH THE THREAT TO MANKIND,
THE NUCLARE THREAT, AS WELL AS SOLVING THE THREAT TO MERE EXISTENCE,
THE HUNGER THAT EXISTS IN THE WORLD TODAY. YOU KNOW PERHAPS THE
GREATEST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN TO US AS A WORLD WOULD BE FOR
SOMEDAY FOR SOMEONE TO BE ABLE TO FIND THAT THE FLYING SAUCER WAS
REAL. AND THAT IT WAS SOMETHING THAT CAME IN FROM ANOTHER WORLD.
THE WHOLE WORLD WOULD UNITE BECAUSE THEY WOULD THINK THERE WAS AN
AGGRESSOR COMING IN FROM SOMEPLACE ELSE. MAYBE IT IS A GOOD IDEA
TO FIND ONE OF THOSE SAUCERS SOME PLACE.

QUESTION: (ON WHETHER PRESIDENT MARCOS ASKED FOR U.S. TROOPS IN SOLVING MINDANAO PROBLEM)

REP. WOLFF: NO, IN FACT HE PARTICULARLY MADE A POINT OF THE FACT THAT HE HAS NEVER ASKED FOR ANY U.S. TROOPS, HE WOULD NEVER ASK FOR ANY U.S. TROOPS, NEVER ASKED FOR ANYTHING IN SOLVING THAT PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT IS A PROBLEM OF OUR OWN AND WE WILL SETTLE IT ON OUR OWN.

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QUESTION: (ON WHETHER HIS COMMENTS ON KHADAFFY CONFLICT WITH PHILIPPINE POLICY)

REP. WOLFF: I CERTAINLY CANNOT INTRUDE UPON THE PHILIPPINES IN ATTEMPTING TO DISAGREE WITH THE JUDGEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE FIRST LADY. THEY HAVE THEIR OWN OPINIONS. I EXPRESS MY CONCERN THAT THERE BE THE OPPORTUNITY EXISTENT FOR MR. KHADAFFY TO GAIN SOME SORT OF A FOOTHOLD HERE WHICH WOULD BE, FROM EVERYTHING THAT WE KNOW ABOUT MR. KHADAFFY AND HIS MISADVENTURES OF THE PAST, DISASTROUS.
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